

Clean Set of Amended Claims

Sub E 17 8. (Amended) A drug infusion assembly for microinfusing a drug into the hypothalamus of a patient's brain, comprising:

Sub C 1 at least one microinfusion catheter configured to be inserted into the hypothalamus of a patient's brain, each of said at least one microinfusion catheters having a plurality of drug delivery ports arranged to deliver a drug to a separate site within the hypothalamus;

A2 a drug delivery manifold, wherein each of said at least one microinfusion catheters is functionally coupled to said drug delivery manifold;

a drug supply line functionally coupled to said drug delivery manifold; and

a drug reservoir/pump for retaining and pumping a drug, said drug reservoir/pump functionally coupled to said drug supply line.

Sub E 16 9. (Amended) The drug infusion assembly as claimed in claim 40, wherein said macrocatheter includes a magnetic unit, said magnetic unit being configured such that application of an external magnetic field allows for stereotactic placement of said macrocatheter to a specific location within the patient's brain.

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- ✓ 10. (Amended) The drug infusion assembly as claimed in claim 40, wherein said macrocatheter includes a magnet located at the distal end of said macrocatheter.

Sub E1

22. (Amended) A method for treating an obesity patient by microinfusing a drug into one or more selected portions of the hypothalamus of the patient, comprising:
- inserting at least one microinfusion catheter into the hypothalamus, wherein the at least one microinfusion catheter includes at least one drug delivery port configured to deliver a drug to tissue adjacent the delivery port; and
 - infusing a drug from the at least one drug delivery port of the at least one microinfusion catheter into the hypothalamus to control the patient's appetite.

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23. (Amended) The method for treating an obesity patient according to claim 45, wherein said macrocatheter insertion step comprises inserting the macrocatheter via an introducer tube inserted into a burr hole in the patient's cranium.

Sub E1

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35. (Amended) A method for treating an obesity patient by infusion of a drug from a drug infusion assembly into the hypothalamus of the patient, the method comprising:

inserting at least one microinfusion catheter into a selected first region of the hypothalamus, wherein the at least one microinfusion catheter includes at least one drug delivery port configured to deliver a drug to tissue adjacent the delivery port; and

infusing a quantity of a drug from the at least one drug delivery port to the patient's hypothalamus.

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36. (Amended) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 49, further comprising:

reinserting the at least one microinfusion catheter into a selected additional region of the hypothalamus;

infusing a quantity of the drug from the at least one drug delivery port to the selected additional region of the hypothalamus;

monitoring clinical effects caused by infusing the drug; and

repeating this method until a satisfactory clinical effect is obtained.

37. (Amended) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 36, wherein infusing a quantity of the drug comprises adjusting the amount of drug infused from the at least one drug delivery port.

38. (Amended) A method for treating an obesity patient by infusion of a drug from a drug infusion assembly into the hypothalamus of the patient, the method comprising:

forming a burr hole at an appropriate location in the patient's cranium;

inserting an introducer tube into the burr hole;

inserting at least one microinfusion catheter into the patient's hypothalamus,

wherein the at least one microinfusion catheter includes at least one drug delivery port configured to deliver a drug to tissue adjacent the delivery port;

infusing a quantity of a drug from the at least one drug delivery port to the patient's hypothalamus to control the patient's appetite;

monitoring clinical effects caused by infusing the drug;

reinserting the at least one microinfusion catheter into a selected additional region of the patient's hypothalamus;

infusing a quantity of the drug from the at least one drug delivery port to the selected additional region of the patient's hypothalamus;

monitoring clinical effects caused by infusing the drug; and

repeating the infusing and monitoring until a satisfactory clinical effect is obtained.

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B. Please add new claims 40-57 as follows:

Sub 17
40. (New) The drug infusion assembly as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a macrocatheter for housing the at least one microinfusion catheter.

Sub 17
41. (New) The drug infusion assembly as claimed in claim 8, wherein the drug reservoir/pump contains an appetite controlling drug for treating obesity.

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Sub 17
42. (New) The drug infusion assembly as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least one microfusion catheter is configured such that each of the plurality of drug delivery ports can be independently controlled.

Sub 17
43. (New) The drug infusion assembly as claimed in claim 8, further comprising monitoring electrodes which sense electrical activity within the patient's hypothalamus.

Sub 17
44. (New) The drug infusion assembly as claimed in claim 43, further comprising a controller functionally coupled to the at least one microfusion catheter, wherein the controller independently controls delivery of a drug from each of the

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plurality of drug delivery ports using information gathered from the monitoring electrodes.

Sub 1
45. (New) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 22, wherein the step of inserting at least one microinfusion catheter into the patient's hypothalamus comprises inserting a macrocatheter into the patient's brain adjacent to the hypothalamus, wherein the macrocatheter houses the at least one microinfusion catheter, and causing the at least one microinfusion catheter to protrude from the macrocatheter and into the patient's hypothalamus.

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46. (New) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 22, wherein the infusing step comprises independently controlling the infusion of a drug from a plurality of drug delivery ports on the at least one microinfusion catheter.

47. (New) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 22, further comprising monitoring the clinical effect caused by the infusion step to determine which drug delivery ports will provide a useful clinical result.

48. (New) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 35, wherein the inserting step comprises inserting a macrocatheter into the patient's brain adjacent to the hypothalamus, wherein the macrocatheter houses the at least one microinfusion catheter, and causing the at least one microinfusion catheter to extend out of the macrocatheter and into the patient's hypothalamus.

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49. (New) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 35, wherein the infusing step comprises independently controlling the infusion of the drug into the patient's hypothalamus from each of a plurality of independently controllable drug delivery ports or the at least one microinfusion catheter.

50. (New) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 35, wherein the infusion step comprises infusing a drug into the patient's hypothalamus from a plurality of drug delivery ports, and further comprising monitoring the clinical effects caused by the drug infusion from each of the drug delivery ports to determine which of the plurality of the drug delivery ports will provide a useful clinical result.

51. (New) The method for treating an obesity patient as claimed in claim 38, wherein the step of inserting the microinfusion catheter comprises:

Serial No. 09/661,153

Docket No. UIOWA-8P4D1

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introducing a macrocatheter into the introducer tube wherein the microinfusion catheter is housed inside the macrocatheter; and

causing the microinfusion catheter to protrude from the macrocatheter into the patient's hypothalamus.
